

TRAPPER INFORMATION 2008-2009



Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife

*Caring for Maine's
Outdoor Future*



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GOVERNOR

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ROLAND D. MARTIN
COMMISSIONER

Dear Trapper:

The Commissioner's letter that was mailed earlier to you mentioned that there were several changes to Maine's trapping regulations this year. These new regulations include a mandatory requirement for reporting lynx incidental captures, new opening and closing dates for the fisher and marten seasons, and a bag limit on fisher. Please review the Trapper Information Booklet and State of Maine Hunting and Trapping 2008-09 Laws and Rules carefully for these and other updates.

Last year's trapping season was a tough one for trappers. I am sure most of you would rather forget the high gas prices, the early heavy snows, and oh, that short season on marten and fisher. Beaver trappers were particularly hard hit by winter conditions last year. The beaver harvest for the 2007-2008 trapping season was the lowest since 1957 and the otter harvest was the lowest on record. Upland trappers had their own challenges when heavy snows arrived early in the season and cut short an already shortened fisher and marten season. These conditions resulted in fisher and marten harvests that were only about half of their normal levels. For fisher, this was probably a good thing since we were trying to reduce the fisher harvest to reverse an apparent decline in the fisher population. Coyote and red fox harvests were somewhat lower than last year, but the grey fox harvest remained strong. Hunters and trappers that pursued bobcat were very successful during the 2007-2008 season. A total of 410 bobcat were harvested, making last year's bobcat harvest the highest since 1976.

A major change was made this year in the Department's furbearer management program. John DePue, a wildlife biologist from Laramie, Wyoming, accepted our offer to become the Department's new furbearer / small mammal biologist this September. John did his Master's work on otter, has extensive trapping experience, and will be a great addition to our Department. John and I will tackle the backlog of furbearer management tasks that have built up over the years. Hopefully, the mix of John's duties will allow him to give furbearers the full attention that they deserve.

If you still have questions regarding how to measure the inside jaw spread of a trap to make sure your traps are 5 3/8 inches or under in WMDs 1-6 and 8-11, please see Figure 1 on the next page.

As of mid-September, I do not have any additional news to share regarding the new lawsuit that was brought against the Department over the incidental trapping of lynx. This summer we submitted our application for an Incidental Take Permit (ITP) to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Our application now has to undergo extensive review by the USFWS and a public comment period before a final decision is made by the USFWS on whether they will accept it. Hopefully, we will hear from the USFWS before the 2009 trapping season on the acceptability of our ITP application. If our application is accepted, it will shield the Department and licensed trappers against lawsuits involving lynx that are incidentally trapped during Maine's trapping season for furbearers. Our ITP application does not address the issue of coyote snaring and the incidental take of lynx.

Please note that in addition to the fur tagging stations listed on the last pages of this booklet, furs may be tagged at the Department's regional offices by game wardens and wildlife biologists. You can help with the tagging process by keeping track of where (town) and when (month) each fur was taken, and by having frozen furs ready for tagging following instructions on pages 45 and 46 of the State of Maine Hunting & Trapping Laws and Rules booklet.

I want to thank trappers for their cooperation and patience, as we worked on our ITP application. The willingness of trappers to report incidentally caught lynx and abide by new regulations will go a long way towards ensuring trapping will continue in Maine for future generations. Have a great trapping season!

Sincerely,

Wally Jakubas
Mammal Group Leader

Figure 1. Correct method for measuring the inside jaw spread of a trap. No foothold trap used in WMDs 1-6 and 8 -11 in an upland setting may have a jaw spread of more than 5 3/8 inches. Trap illustrations are from the IAFWA Best management practices for trapping coyotes.

Measure inside spread of jaw at the dog of the trap

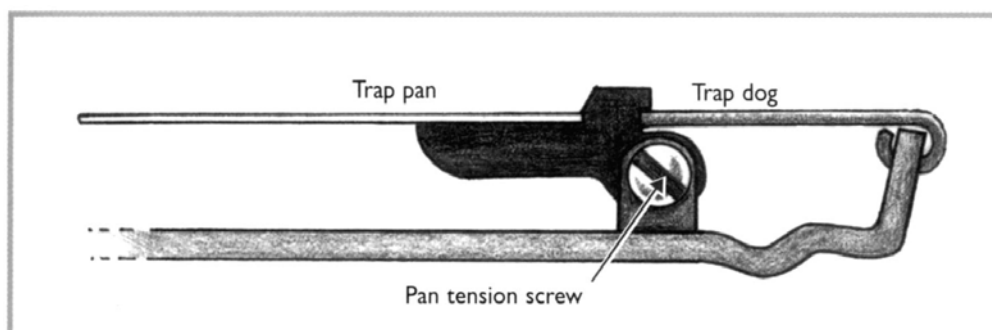
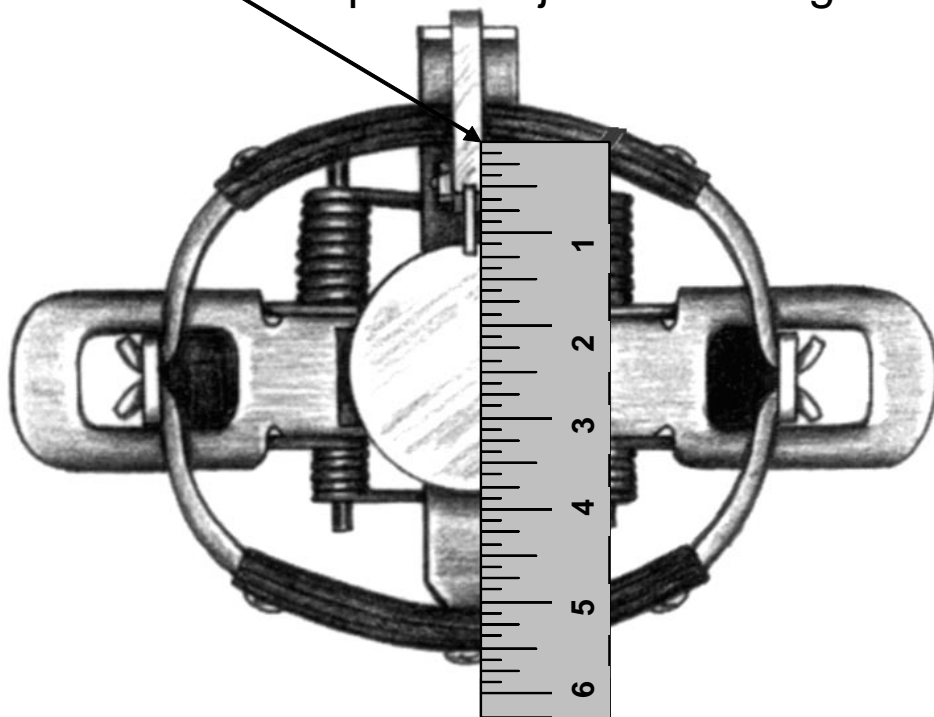


Table 1. Average pelt price offered for furs by Maine furbuyers over the last 6 trapping seasons. Prices followed by a superscript (h or L) were significantly higher or lower than the average pelt price the previous 5 years for that species.

Species	07-08	06-07	05-06	04-05	03-04	02-03
Beaver	\$21 ^h	\$21 ^h	\$18	\$17	\$16	\$14
Coyote	\$21	\$22 ^h	\$17	\$16	\$21	\$20
Red fox	\$20	\$22 ^h	\$17	\$16	\$22	\$24
Fisher (Male)	\$61 ^h	\$71 ^h	\$31	\$27	\$25	\$24
Fisher (Female)	\$63 ^h	\$74 ^h	\$27	\$21	\$21	\$23
Muskrat	\$2.56	\$6 ^h	\$2.60	\$1.69	\$2.15	\$2.64
Raccoon	\$11 ^h	\$11 ^h	\$7.80	\$8.78	\$10.24	\$8.92
Weasel	\$3.67 ^h	\$3.31 ^h	\$2.21	\$1.96	\$2.00	\$1.97
Bobcat	\$60 ^h	\$59 ^h	\$49	\$44	\$50	\$61
Grey fox	\$32 ^h	\$24 ^h	\$17	\$12	\$14	\$10
Pine Marten	\$32	\$45 ^h	\$25	\$21	\$19	\$18
Mink (Male)	\$13	\$22 ^h	\$15	\$12	\$10	\$10
Mink (Female)	\$7	\$13 ^h	\$10	\$8	\$8	\$6
Otter	\$41 ^L	\$45 ^L	\$70	\$68	\$65	\$51
Skunk	\$4.67 ^h	\$5 ^h	\$3.50	\$2.79	\$2.54	\$2.33

Table 2. Harvest of furbearing animals in Maine from the 2000-2001 to 2007-2008 trapping seasons. Harvest levels were determined from pelt-tagging records. Pelt-tagging records may under-represent the harvest of coyote and beaver.

Species	07-08	06-07	05-06	04-05	03-04	02-03	01-02	00-01
Beaver	6,357	12,635	11,094	10,436	8,222	7,809	11,757	9,803
Bobcat	410	344	344	376	273	331	269	308
Coyote	1,819	2,007	2,077	2,175	2,459	2,287	2,741	1,977
Fisher	993	1,968	1,810	2,174	2,526	2,630	3,117	2,028
Red fox	1,030	1,245	1,067	1,413	1,535	1,469	2,056	1,272
Grey fox	161	107	67	125	196	172	164	89
Marten	2,401	2,350	3,873	2,248	5,088	2,908	5,529	1,832
Mink	1,888	2,280	1,108	1,224	904	935	2,031	1,606
Otter	493	968	1,041	1,113	931	803	1,103	943

TRAPPING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY

The Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Program is working towards enhancing the relationship between landowners and land users. With approximately 94% of the land in Maine in private ownership, everyone must respect all landowners and their rights as landowners. All landowner wishes have to be followed by all outdoor recreational participants to help ensure access and use of private property in the years to come.

Trappers are expected to abide by a higher standard of landowner permission than any of the other outdoor recreational participants. This standard is a law that requires written permission from the landowner before going on someone else's land to set traps, except for beaver.

Trappers as a whole have done a great job in abiding by this requirement. The end result has been a better understanding of trapping by the landowners and the public in general. Contacting the landowners for permission does put an extra burden on the trapper. However, the one-on-one communication between the trapper and landowner plays a vital role in improving landowner relations -- not only for trappers -- but for all outdoor recreational participants.

Although you are not required to get written permission before trapping beaver on land you do not own, you are not allowed to go on another person's land to trap beaver if the landowner has asked you not to go there, either verbally or by posted notice.

We receive several complaints each year where trappers have set up on a beaver colony that the landowner does not want removed. Please make every effort to avoid this type of conflict. You can do that by communicating with landowners prior to the opening of the trapping season as to what their wishes or concerns may be.

The law covering abuse of another's property contains several prohibited acts, but the one most likely to be encountered by a trapper is the cutting of trees or branches on the land of another. Cutting is not allowed without landowner permission.

We would like to thank all trappers for the excellent efforts they have displayed in helping us improve landowner relations. What you do does make a difference.

AVOIDING INCIDENTAL CAPTURES

Bald Eagles

In past years, the single biggest factor leading to the incidental capture of bald eagles was the use of exposed bait. In 2007, MDIFW initiated a rule change to require trappers to cover exposed bait that is within 50 yards of a trap. Bait must be covered so that it is not visible from above and be covered in such a way that the covering will not easily be blown off in the wind. Bait that must be covered includes feathers or other animal parts used as attractants, such as might be used to trap bobcat. Although eagles are fish eaters, they are attracted to a variety of carrion including large and small mammals. Examples of trapping sets where exposed bait resulted in an incidental eagle capture are fisher and marten sets, float sets for muskrats where more than one trap is set on the float (if multiple traps are set, eagles may get caught in one of the remaining traps), pocket sets along stream banks, and traps set near carrion. Bald eagles are particularly attracted to sets where fish are used as bait. Do not depend on water hiding the bait. Several eagles have been caught in traps baited with fish when water levels dropped leaving the fish exposed.

Canada Lynx

If you are trapping in WMDs 1 through 11, lynx could be in the area. If you are trapping for fox, coyote, or bobcat and see lynx sign near the vicinity of your traps, please consider moving your traps to another location. **Trappers in WMDs 1 through 11 are now required to set conibears (killing-type traps) either completely under water or at least 4 feet above ground or snow level, on leaning poles or trees that are 4 inches or less in diameter, that are at an angle of 45° or more from the ground. Some exceptions are made for blind sets and sets under overhanging banks. Please see p. 41 of the Trapping and Hunting 2008-09 Laws and Rules booklet for details.**

Further information on how to avoid the incidental capture of lynx and how to safely release a lynx from a trap is available on our website:

http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/management/lynx_avoid.htm

IF YOU CATCH A LYNX OR EAGLE

Trappers catching either of these species are required to notify the Department as soon as possible. If you accidentally trap a lynx or eagle during the trapping season, please notify a biologist or game warden immediately, before releasing the animal. **For quickest response, phone 207-941-4466 during regular office hours (8 AM - 5 PM Monday-Friday), or 207-592-4734 outside of business hours. You may also contact the nearest regional office at one of the numbers listed in the back of this booklet.**

Department personnel are available to help release lynx or eagles caught in traps. Lynx and eagles are protected by federal and state laws, and cannot be kept if caught in a trap. An eagle caught in a trap will likely require rehabilitation. An eagle caught in a trap by one of its legs may show little if any signs of injury at the time of capture. What may appear to be a very minor bruise at the time of capture can quickly develop into a fatal injury. This is because of the unique way that blood circulates in an eagle's leg. A bruise may result in a loss of blood flow in the leg; this in turn can lead to an infection that causes the death of the bird. **Please contact MDIFW as soon as possible if you catch an eagle in a trap.** Ideally, an eagle should spend as little time in a trap as possible. Safely releasing an eagle from a trap will require covering the eyes or head of the animal, controlling the talons (e.g., tether the feet together), and putting the released eagle in a holding container that has adequate ventilation and that restricts wing movement (e.g., burlap bag). Once the eagle is secure it can be held for a biologist or warden or be transported to the nearest MDIFW regional office.

Remember that **IFW regulations require all incidentally trapped lynx be reported** to either a biologist or warden. In most circumstances a biologist will tranquilize, examine, and release the animal. However, there may be circumstances where it is impossible for a biologist to get to the trap site within a reasonable amount of time. In those incidences or when a lynx is in immediate danger from being left in a trap, trappers are permitted to release the lynx. However, the incidental capture of a lynx must be reported to a MDIFW warden or biologist within 24 hours. If you release a lynx, please note the extent of any injuries the lynx may have received in the trap. For information regarding how to safely release a lynx from a trap, please refer to information on the Department website (http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/management/lynx_avoid.htm) or to the booklet "How to Avoid the Incidental Take of Lynx While Trapping or Hunting Bobcats and other Furbearers" which was distributed to all trappers a couple of years ago. If you would like more information on lynx biology or the Department's lynx research efforts, please contact Jennifer Vashon or Wally Jakubas or at 941-4466.

If you catch a cat and are uncertain whether it is a bobcat or a lynx, please contact a wildlife biologist or warden before killing the animal. It is better to err on the side of caution than to accidentally kill a lynx.

OTHER MATTERS OF ATTENTION

Nuisance Beaver

A list of nuisance beaver sites **may** be available for your area. Please contact your regional wildlife office if you are interested in the location of recent nuisance beaver removal sites or the location of any current nuisance sites. Regional wildlife offices are listed at the back of this booklet.

Temporary Marten and Fisher Tags

Please remember that a temporary tag must be signed, dated, and attached to captured marten or fisher at the time the animal is removed from the capture site. Fur tagging agents are to retain the temporary tag from each marten or fisher after they attach the permanent fur tag to the pelt.

Pelt Tagging Requirements

Trappers must have all their fall fur tagged 10 days after the season ends. The Department will be collecting the fur tagging books for fall fur 20 days after the close of the season (i.e., around January 20). The Department uses fur tagging information to monitor the population trends of furbearers. If fur remains untagged, the accuracy of our furbearer management systems is diminished. Collecting fur tagging books earlier in the year will allow sufficient time to determine furbearer population levels and to discuss these findings with trappers and regional biologists prior to formulating trapping regulations.

Lynx Study

MDIFW, in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the University of Maine, and private landowners, has been conducting a lynx study in northwestern Maine since 1999. This study is helping to ensure that regulations and management plans for lynx in Maine are based on sound information from Maine. We are studying lynx by radiocollaring individuals and monitoring their movements, behavior, and habitat use. Our field crew is based at Clayton Lake.

Collared and Ear-tagged Animals

In addition to collaring lynx, the Department has collared and/or ear-tagged coyotes, bobcat, fisher, and fox as part of the lynx study. If you catch a collared or ear-tagged animal in one of your traps, that is NOT a lynx, you may take the animal for fur. However, you will need to return the collar and tags, and we would appreciate knowing where you caught the animal. Please call the nearest regional MDIFW office to report the location of the catch to a wildlife biologist and arrange to return the radiocollar and tags.

RARE MAMMALS TO WATCH FOR

Lynx vs. Bobcat Know the Difference

The most notable difference between a lynx and a bobcat is paw size. Lynx paws are about twice the size of bobcat paws. Lynx can also be distinguished from bobcats by the tip of their tail, which is completely black (bobcat tail tips are black on the upper side [dorsal side] and white underneath). Lynx have more prominent ear tufts, paler coloration, less spotting, and longer legs than a bobcat. Please know the difference between bobcat, lynx, and fisher tracks (Table 3, Figures 3 and 4).

If you trap a bobcat that looks like a cross between a lynx and a bobcat, we would like to know about it. We have recovered several lynx-bobcat hybrids in north central Maine and are interesting in documenting other specimens. Remember, if you are uncertain whether you have trapped a lynx or a bobcat please call a biologist or warden before dispatching the animal. If you have already dispatched the animal, and think it has unusual characteristics for a bobcat, we are still interested in seeing it. We have documented lynx - bobcat hybrids in Maine.

Wolves

Please let us know about any animals you encounter that are wolf-like in appearance. Large coyotes (50 + pounds) are very rare. Any canid 50 pounds or greater may be a wolf, wolf-hybrid, or domestic dog (See Table 3, Figure 2). Maine law protects all wildlife from hunting or trapping when there is not a specific hunting or trapping season for the species. It is also illegal to indiscriminately shoot domestic dogs or wolf-hybrids. We have documented a number of wolves and wolf hybrids over the last 20 years. In most cases, we believe these animals were released from captivity. However, we also know that wild wolves have been trapped in southern Quebec and it would have been possible for these animals to travel into Maine. Wolves are considered a federally endangered animal in the Northeast and it is illegal to kill them. **Please use care in identifying any large canids you encounter. If you suspect you have a canine in a trap that is over 4.5 ft. in length (from tip of tale to nose) or over 50 pounds it may be a wolf. Please contact your regional biologist before dispatching the animal.**

If you see tracks, hear howling, or find other sign that indicates that a wolf is nearby, please contact our Department. Wolves of the Laurentides Reserve of Quebec (the nearest established wolf population to Maine) range from 55 - 105 pounds. Wolves have proportionately longer legs, frame, and larger feet than coyotes. Compared to coyote tracks, wolf tracks are larger and rounder (Table 3, Figure 2). Wolf coloration ranges from black to very light beige. Many wolves are tan with grizzled black and gray - similar to Maine's coyotes.

TRACK AND TRACK PATTERNS FOR COUGAR, LYNX, AND WOLF; WITH COMPARISONS TO MORE COMMON SPECIES

Table 3. Distinguishing track characteristics

Species	General Shape	Walking Stride	Print Size (Front Foot)	Track Pattern
Bobcat	General round appearance. Heel points in slightly different direction than toes. No nail marks, but if present, attached to toe marks.	6" to 14"	Length - 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ " to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " to 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	Direct or double register walking pattern. Trail pattern zigzags right-left-right-left.
Lynx	Same as bobcat but tracks show a lot more hair. Smaller pads than a mountain lion.	11" to 18"	Length - 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Width - 3" to 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " Outline of hair impression Length - 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 5 $\frac{3}{8}$ " Width - 3 $\frac{3}{8}$ " to 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Same as bobcat
Cougar	Same as bobcat	20" to 32"	Length - 3" to 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Width - 3 $\frac{1}{8}$ " to 3 $\frac{9}{16}$ "	Walking pattern similar to other cats. Deep snow may show belly and tail drag marks.
Coyote	4 toes, oval shaped track, Front nails often close together. Side nails often do not register.	Eastern: 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 26"	Eastern: Length - 2 $\frac{7}{8}$ " to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ " - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering
Dog	Similar to wolves and coyotes. Inner toes often splayed outwards.	Varies with breed	Varies with breed	Trail pattern sloppy, wandering, not usually in a straight line. Walking pattern is often double register.
Wolf	4 toes, symmetrical track, longer than wide, more rounded than a coyote, nail marks not attached to toe mark (same as coyote), 4 nails register.	Algonquin: 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ " to 28 $\frac{1}{2}$ " □	Algonquin: Length - 4" - 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ " Width - 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " - 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Other: Length - 3 $\frac{7}{8}$ " - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Width - 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " - 5"	Trail pattern usually is in a straight line. Walking pattern is usually direct registering.

Terminology:

Direct register - a walking pattern where the animal's forefoot is overprinted by the hind foot.



Double or Indirect register - a walking pattern where the animal's hind foot does not fall directly on the front track.

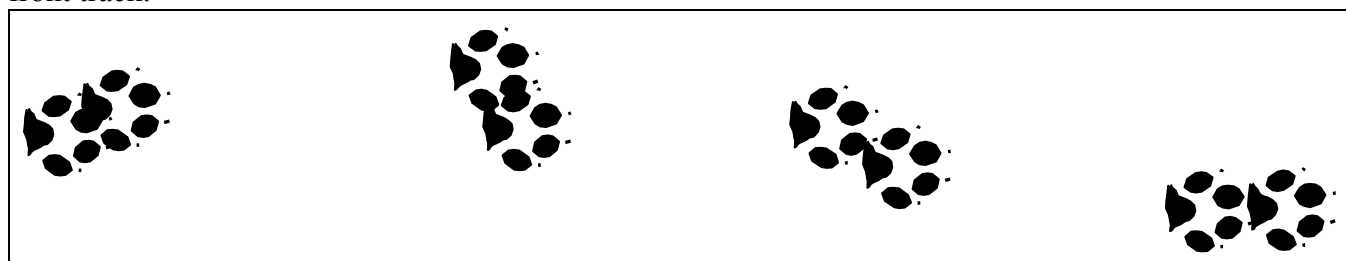
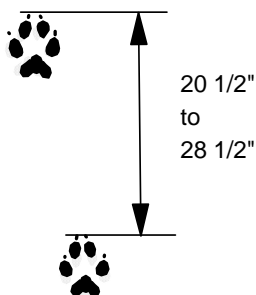
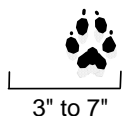
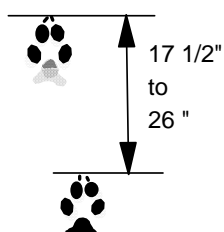


Figure 2. Comparison of wolf, coyote, and dog tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992).

Wolf Track Pattern



Coyote Track Pattern



Dog Track Pattern



Note for Coyotes and Wolves

If you have an animal in hand and wish to determine whether it is a coyote or wolf, measure its total length (Tip of nose to tip of tail). An animal over 4 ft. in length may be a wolf.

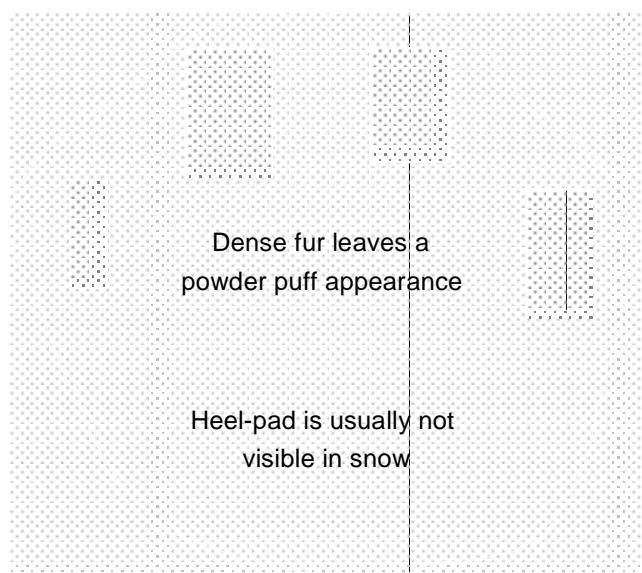
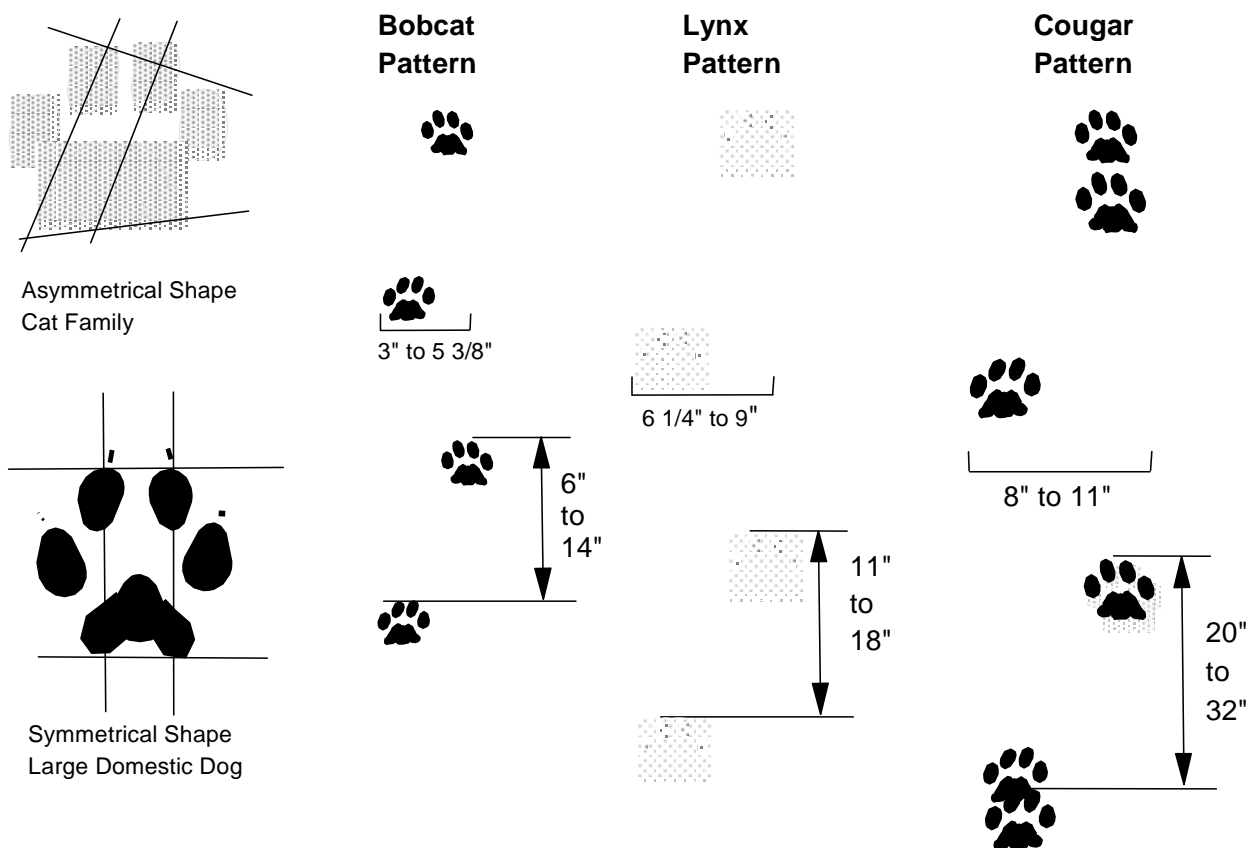


WOLF PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE



COYOTE PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

Figure 3. Comparisons of canine and cat tracks, and bobcat, lynx, and cougar tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992) and Elbroch (2003).



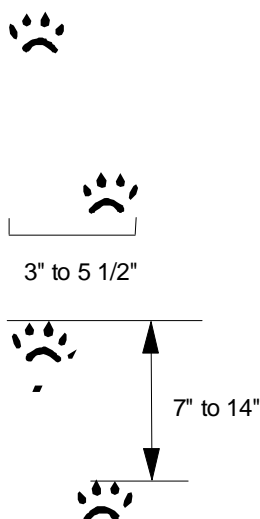
LYNX PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE



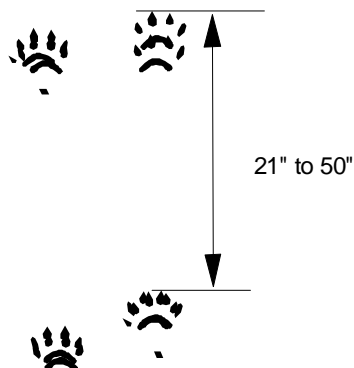
COUGAR PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE

Figure 4. Fisher tracks. Illustrations follow those in Rezendes (1992).

Fisher Track Pattern (Walking)



Fisher Track Pattern (Running) Common 2x2 Pattern



FISHER PRINT, ACTUAL SIZE (MALE)

Print Size (Front Foot)

Note: Prints from males and females may differ considerably in size.

Length - 2 1/8" to 3 7/8"

Width - 2 1/8 " to 3 1/4"

Other

Fifth toe and heel pad often do not show. Total length with heel pad may be longer than above measurements. Tracks in snow are often indistinct, and somewhat pear shaped.

LITERATURE CITED

- Rezendes, P. 1992. Tracking the art of seeing: how to read animal tracks and sign. Camden House, Charlotte, VT.
- Elbroch, M. 2003. Mammal tracks and sign: a guide to North American species. Stackpole Books, Mechanicsburg, PA.

2008-2009 Beaver Trapping Season & Closures

WMD's	Season Dates
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6.....	November 2 – April 30
7, 13, 14, 17.....	December 1 – March 31
8, 9, 10, 11, 18, 19, 28.....	November 2 – April 15
12, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 27, 29.....	December 1 – February 28
20, 21, 22, 24.....	December 15 – February 28

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 1 (Open November 2 – April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Allagash, except Little Falls Pond and outlet.

Allagash, except Fall Brook Lake.

T18 R10 WELS, except Connors Pond and Connors Brook.

T18 R10 WELS, except Hafey Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 2 (Open November 2 – April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town open:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

T13 R10 WELS, except Sag Pond and tributaries.

T13 R10 WELS, except Pete's Pond and tributaries.

T14 R8 WELS, except Moccasin Pond and tributaries.

T14 R9 WELS, except North Pond and tributaries.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 3 (Open November 2 – April 30)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 4 (Open November 2 – April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

T8 R16 WELS, except Desolation Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 5 (Open November 2 – April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with no part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following town shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

Trout Brook Twp., except north of Trout Brook.

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Ashland, except unnamed brook on land owned by Artemus and Rosemary Coffin located north of Goding Road and west of Rt. #11.

Moro Plt., except Bradford Pond and Bradford Brook northwest of Rt. 11.

Moro Plt., except Green Pond.

T8 R9 WELS, except Brown Pond.

T8 R11 WELS, except Bluffer Pond.

T9 R9 WELS, except Brown Brook Pond.

T10 R11 WELS, except Upper Deadwater Pond.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 6 (Open November 2 – April 30)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Ashland, except section of Nowland Brook on land owned by Ronald Rushinal adjacent to the Nowland Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 7 (Open December 1 – March 31)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

C Surplus Twp., except C Pond and the Dead Cambridge River from C Pond to Umbagog Lake.

Twp. 6 North of Weld, except Mud Pond and outlet.

Upton, except C Pond and the Dead Cambridge River from C Pond to Umbagog Lake.

Upton, except for that section of B Brook from the confluence with B Pond, downstream to the first road crossing.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 8 (Open November 2 – April 15)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Blake Gore, except Capehorn Pond.

Carrying Place Town Twp. (T2 R3 BKP WKR), except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

Forsythe Twp., except Turner Pond.

Holeb Twp., except Fish Pond and tributaries.

Johnson Mountain Twp., except Markham and outlet to Rt. 201.

Parlin Pond Twp., except Parlin Brook.

Pierce Pond Twp., except Black Brook Pond, flowage, and outlet downstream to the first gravel road.

Prentiss Twp., except Capehorn Pond.

Tomhegan Game Sanctuary, the Pittston Farm Game Sanctuary, the Moosehead Lake Game Sanctuary and Somerset Game Sanctuary shall all be open.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 9 (Open November 2 – April 15)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 10 (Open November 2 – April 15)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 11 (Open November 2 – April 15)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 12 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Dixfield, except the unnamed pond known as the Pond Hole, located several hundred yards east of, and 8/10 of a mile north of the Newton Brook rest area on Rt. 2.

Gilead, except Carlton Brook.

Hartford, except for the part of the west tributary to Little Bear Pond that runs through the property owned by Sylvia Mahoney. The closed beaver flowage is located on the northeast side of the Mahoney Road.

Twp. 6 North of Weld, except Mud Pond and outlet.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 13 (Open December 1 – March 31)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Concord Twp., except Owen's Marsh and outlet to Rt. 16.

Freeman Twp., except Stubb's Meadow, which is divided by an abandoned narrow gauge railroad bed and is located north of True Hill, and between the Freeman Road and Rt. 145.

Temple, except an un-named flowage east of the Day Mountain Road, 3.1 miles north of the intersection of the Day Mountain Road and the Intervale Road, on the land of the Lotta Rugh family.

Temple, except an un-named flowage on an un-named brook immediately west of the Iisalo Road and immediately north of the Dean Mountain Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 14 (Open December 1 – March 31)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 15 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Cornish, except tributaries to Brown Brook upstream from the Watson Hill Road, Leavitt Brook, and Haley Pond and tributaries and Little River east of Rt. 5.

Denmark, except Moose Pond Brook and tributaries.

Harrison, except Thomes Brook.

Otisfield, except Coon Road Swamp and Moose Pond.

Porter, except Thurston Brook and tributaries, and Bickford Pond and tributaries.

Sweden, except Plummer Brook downstream from Berry Pond.

Waterford, except that portion of Kedar Brook upstream of Rt. 37.

West Paris, except Darnit Brook tributaries east of Woody Brook Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 16 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Mercer, except the land of David P. Van Burgel and Kathy J. Scott, which is located between the Hampshire Hill Road and the Rome Road, and includes a portion of Hilton Brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 17 (Open December 1 – March 31)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Charleston, except for the land of R. Christopher Almy.

Hartland, except tributaries to Thompson Brook west and north of Rt. 23 that are on the property owned by John Studt.

Hermon, except for land of Herbert Bates bordered on the north by the Fuller Road, on the east by the New Boston Road, on the south by Rt. 2/100, and to the west by the Billings Road.

Skowhegan, except an un-named bog located on the land of Sally Knight, east of the East Ridge Road and south of the Notch Road. It is south of Loomis Hill, west of Whittemore Hill, and north of Foster Hill.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 18 (Open November 2 – April 15)

No closures within this Wildlife Management District

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 19 (Open November 2 – April 15)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Baileyville, except flowage east of and behind Goding Cement plant (so-called Eastern Olsen Marsh).

Princeton, except Slime Meadow Brook.

T3 ND, except Duck Lake Brook.

T4 ND, except Duck Lake Brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 20 (Open December 15–February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Lebanon, except Great Brook and tributaries west of Upper Guinea Road, Bog Brook northwest of Heath Road, Prescott Brook, and Little River and tributaries west of the Will Goding Road.

Lyman, except tributaries of Hamilton Branch of Shaker Brook east of Route 202.

Shapleigh, except Davis Brook down stream of the Mann Road.

Waterboro, except tributaries to Hamilton Branch of Shaker Brook east of Route 202.

Wells, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook.

York, except Dolly Gordon Brook and tributaries.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 21 (Open December 15–February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Baldwin, except Quaker Brook and tributaries.

Freeport, except Kelsey Brook.

Gray, except Allen Bog and tributaries.

New Gloucester, except tributaries to Chandler River, downstream from the Chadsey Road.

Pownal, except tributary to Chandler River, between Allen Road and Chadsey Road.

Raymond, except Sucker Brook and tributaries.

Standish, except Josies Brook between Dow Road and Saco Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 22 (Open December 15–February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

Perkins Twp. (Swan Island)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Pittston, except for the property owned by Judith Schuppien and Philip Brzozowski located on the west side of the Eastern River and south of the Caston Road.

Woolwich, except for the area encompassed by Walker Road to the south, the Mountain Road to the east, and the Old Stage Road to the north and west.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 23 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

China, except the property of H.C. Dillenbeck very large flowage located on Clark Brook.
Town map 32 Lots 37 and 38.

Etna, except for the wetland located east of the Rt. 143, south of I-95, west of the Etna/Carmel town line, and north of the South Etna Road.

Freedom, except for wetlands located east of the North Palermo Road, south of the Sibley Road, west of Bennett Lane, and north of Hutchins Corner.

Jackson, all flowages south of the Jackson / Dixmont / Troy town line, west of Route 7, north of Jackson Corner, east of Common Hill.

Montville, except the parcel of land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road, west of the Howard Road, south of the Penny Road, and east of the Halldale Road.

Montville, except land owned by the Sheepscot Wellspring Land Alliance located north of the Burnham Hill Road between Herb Jackson Road and the Mountain Road.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 24 (Open December 15–February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Wells, except Webhannet River and Crediford Brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 25 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Alna, except north of Rt. 194 to the Alna Town Line, east of Hollywood Blvd, and west of the Egypt Road.

Boothbay, except Meadow Pond located southeast of the Back Narrows Road and north of Route 96.

Bristol, except an unnamed tributary to the Pemaquid River that passes through the land owned by James Deucher, north of the Rock Schoolhouse Road. (Fire Road. B 31-1).

Bristol, except Johnson's Meadow on Trout Brook, so called, to the Chamberlain Post Office.

Edgecomb, except the area south of Lawrence Road (formerly Mill Road.), east of Parson's Creek, and west of Parson's Point Road and Rt. 27.

Edgecomb, except the wetland known as Hourglass Pond located east of Rt. 26, north of the Middle Road, south of the Town Hall Road, and west of the CMP powerline right-of-way, property of Betty Twarog.

Edgecomb, except the Charles & Constance Schmid Land Preserve, a private land preserve that encompasses 766 acres located off of the Middle Road, Old County Road and Mount Hunger Road East, and Mount Hunger Road North.

Jefferson, except south of the Atkins Road, west of Rt. 215 to the town line, and west of the Egypt road to the Jefferson /Whitefield town line.

South Thomaston, except the land of C. M. Waterman, so called Towers Brook, west and north of Route 73, and south of the Grierson Road.

Whitefield, except the land owned by Paul and Mary Fournier located north of the Jewett Road in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

Whitefield, except the land owned by Lisa Tuttle, including the beaver flowage located along the west side of Weary Pond Road, just inside the boundary of the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary.

Whitefield, except east of the Weary Pond Road to the Jefferson/Whitefield Town line, east of Hollywood Blvd to the Jefferson/Whitefield Town Line, and south of the Hilton Road.

Note: Land in the Jefferson-Whitefield Sanctuary that is in the town of Whitefield will be open to beaver trapping except for the area described above.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 26 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Eddington, except Merrill Road Brook which crosses the Merrill Road in East Eddington.

Ellsworth, except the area east of Branch Lake, south of Winkumpaugh Road, west of Rt. 1A from Wilson's Corner to Hurd's Corner, and north of Branch Pond Road; and the area north of Green lake outlet, east of Rt. 180, and west of Graham Lake.

Orrington, except the area south of Center Drive, west of King's Mountain road, north of Harriman Woods road, and east of Dow Road.

Searsport, except area enclosed by the Mt. Ephraim Road, the Old County Road, Prospect St., and Route 1/3.

Searsport, except for the flowage on the property of Richard and Joyce Stevens located south and east of the junction of the Mt. Ephraim road and the Nickels Road.

Stonington, except Ames Pond and its inlet.

Swanville, except for the flowage located on the northwest corner of Swan Lake on the property owned by Alfred Miliano.

Swanville, except Hurd's Pond Wildlife Management Area.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 27 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Addison, except the area east of Pleasant River, south of tributary to Long Cove, west of South Addison Road, and north of the Split Road.

Jonesport, except the pond created by Popplestone Beach and its inlet brook.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 28 (Open November 2 – April 15)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Alexander, except Barrows Lake, tributaries, and outlet.

Crawford, except Barrows Stream from Alexander town line south to first mapped tributary.

Closed areas for Wildlife Management District 29 (Open December 1 – February 28)

The following towns shall be completely **closed** with **no** part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **closed** but with the excepted part of the town **open**:

(No towns in this category in this District)

The following towns shall be **open** but with the excepted part of the town **closed**:

Frenchboro, except Long Island.

BEAVER/MUSKRAT TRAPPING POLICY

1. Beaver Dam -
The Department, for enforcement purposes, has modified its definition of a “beaver dam,” such that the term does not include the remains of an inactive or breached beaver dam that is in disrepair and is no longer being maintained by beaver. This provides a standard definition of what is considered a beaver dam for law enforcement purposes.
2. Tributary - means a brook, stream or river flowing directly or indirectly into a lake, pond or another brook, stream or river. A lake or great pond shall not be construed to mean tributary. The tributary to a great pond shall not be considered a tributary to the outlet of that great pond.
3. Setback Distance - Setback distance requirements specified in existing regulation shall apply to the trapping of all species at all times. You are required to set your traps at least 4 feet away from another person’s beaver traps; however, as a matter of common courtesy you should always set your traps a reasonable distance away from any trap which has been set by someone else.
4. Beaver House - The term beaver house shall be interpreted to include any cavity in the bank which is capped by beaver with mud and sticks. The above definition addresses the question of whether or not a bank den is considered to be a beaver house, as well as the question of what is considered to be a bank den. Holes in the bank not capped with mud and sticks shall not be considered beaver houses.
5. Muskrat Den - A muskrat den is any cavity, which is capped by muskrats with vegetative matter including but not limited to hollow stumps and bank cavities. Holes in the bank not capped with vegetative matter shall not be considered muskrat dens.
6. Distance Measurements - For dams, dens, and houses, all measurements should be made from the trap itself. Sticks and poles used to construct the set are not considered part of the trap. The setback distance shall be measured as follows:
 - House - Measured from where the nearest edge of the house meets water or ice. In the case of capped cavity on the bank, distance will be measured from where the nearest intersection edge of the cap meets the ground, water, or ice.
 - Dens - Measured from the nearest opening.
 - Dams - Beaver dams should be measured from the where the nearest edge of the dam meets ground, water, or ice.

You are not allowed to set a trap within 10 feet of a muskrat house, muskrat den, or beaver house, and you are not allowed to set a trap within 5 feet of an active beaver dam.
7. Advanced Preparation on "Trapping Grounds" - There shall be no installation or placement of trapping implements, associated materials, or supplies or preparation of the

site IN the water or ON the ice including the associated flowage, marsh, bog, brook, stream, river, pond, or lake prior to the beginning of the trapping season on beaver and muskrat. For species other than muskrat or beaver, you are allowed to go out before the season and prepare the area you want to trap. However, you are never allowed to fasten a trap (set or unset) at any trap site location before opening day.

8. Nuisance Beaver Removal - Every effort shall be made to minimize the out-of-season removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner. This shall be accomplished by: (1) maintaining in-season trapping opportunity in problem areas, and (2) restricting the removal of nuisance beaver by agents of the Commissioner prior to the beaver trapping season. Except in emergency situations, no nuisance beaver will be removed within 30 days of the opening day of the beaver trapping season in that area. A list of locations where beaver have been removed within 30 days of the opening of the beaver trapping season will be maintained at regional offices. The above provisions will maintain a greater level of beaver trapping opportunity.
9. "Drowning Set" – A drowning set is a trap that is set completely underwater and rigged in such a way as to reasonably ensure the drowning of any species of trapped furbearer that would reasonably be expected to visit the set location and be held in the type of trap used at the set. (**Note:** You are allowed to trap in shallow water where a trapped animal is **not** likely to drown, but traps set in this manner are not considered to be drowning sets and are **not** allowed within ½ mile of the built up section of a city or town.)
10. Trap Tending Laws - The trap tending laws are as follows:

All traps set in organized towns must be tended daily, except killer-type traps and under-ice water sets for muskrat and beaver. Each killer-type trap, except under-ice water sets, must be visited at least once every 3 calendar days.

All traps set in unorganized towns must be tended daily, except for killer-type traps and drowning sets. Killer-type traps or drowning sets in unorganized towns must be tended at least once in every five calendar days.
11. Under ice water sets - For enforcement and information purposes, all water sets for beaver and muskrat during December, January, February and March will be considered "under ice water sets" as far as trap tending requirements are concerned.

Note: It is legal to use snares set completely under water for beaver during the open season on beaver.

2008-2009 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

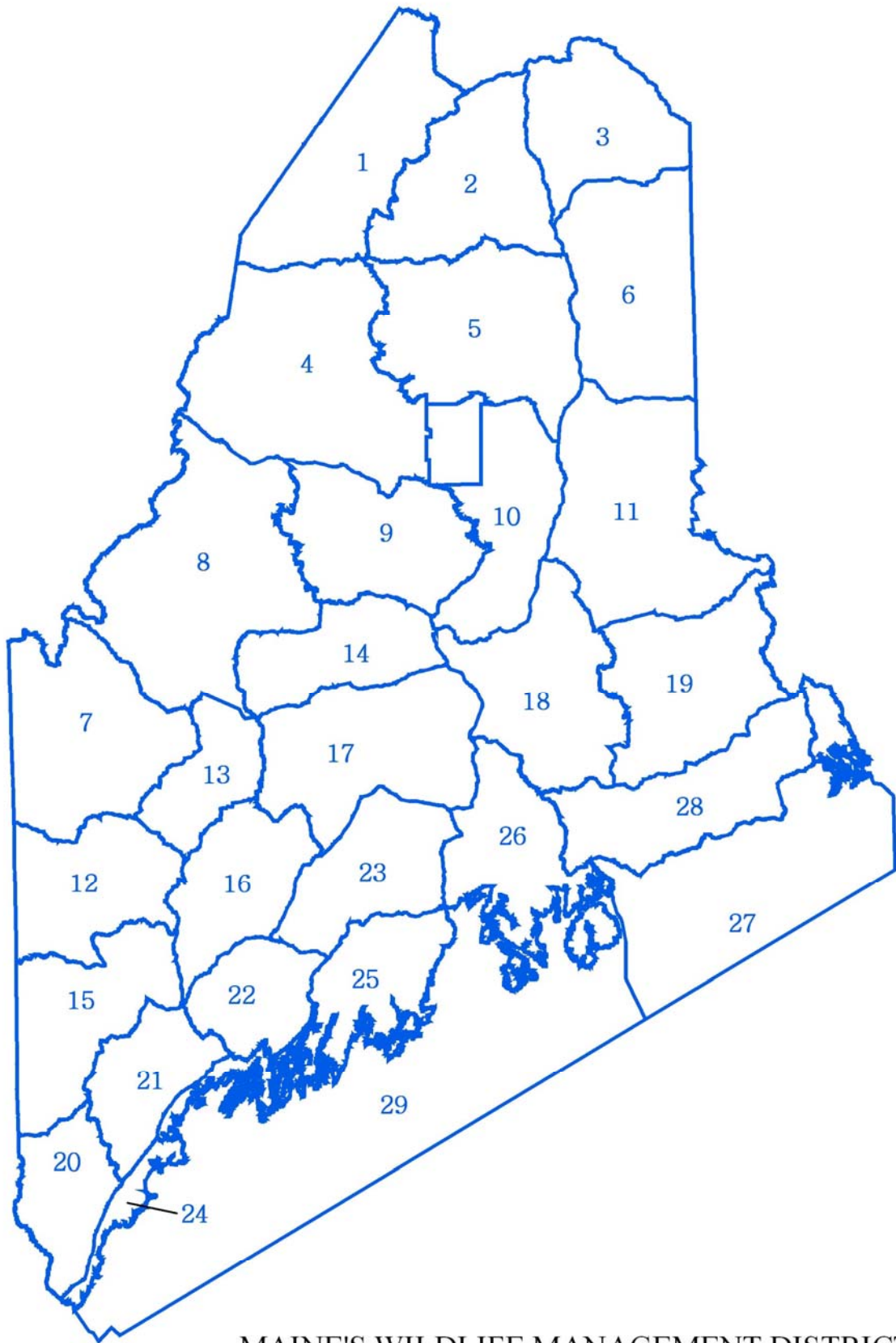
<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Athens	William Thompson Rt. 43, PO Box 55, Athens, ME 04912	431-3158
Atkinson	Snow's Ag Grocery 101 South Stagecoach Road, Atkinson, ME 04426	564-7763
Belgrade	Kerry Oliver, Day's Store Rt. 27, PO Box 277, Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918	495-2205
Bridgton	Doug Taft PO Box 25, 31 Malcolm Road, Bridgton, ME 04009	647-8280
Brownville	Guy Green Rt. 11, 62 Main Road, Brownville, ME 04414	965-8369
Byron	Judith Boucher, Coos Canyon Campground 445 Swift River Road, Byron, ME 04275	364-3880
Cape Elizabeth	Mary Gallagher, Yankee Trapper Bait and Lure 200 Fowler Road, Cape Elizabeth, ME 04107	799-6858
Caribou	Myron Hale, County Sports, Inc. 285 Sweden St., Caribou, ME 04736	492-6072
Durham	Walter Brooks 20 Stieg Road, Durham, ME 04222	353-9962
Eagle Lake	Bald Eagle Store Inc. Rt. 11, 3318 Aroostook Road, Eagle Lake, ME 04739	444-5115
Hampden	Ronald McKinnon, MCK's Variety 995 Western Avenue, Hampden, ME 04444	862-3196
Hanover	Christopher Howe, Gordie Howe's Inc. 2082 Main Street, Hanover, ME 04237	369-9300
Holden	Holden Log Cabin General Store Corner of Rt. 1A and South Road, Holden, ME 04429	843-5895
Jackman	Raymond Levesque, Bishop's Store Inc. PO Box 369, 464 Main Street, Jackman, ME 04945	668-3411
Liberty	Robert Anderson, Liberty Trading Post 498 Belfast Augusta Road, Liberty, ME 04949	589-4209
Litchfield	Arnold St. Claire 1313 West Road, Litchfield, ME 04350	268-3490
Montville	Corie Dimmitt, Mt. Valley Sports 141 S. Mt. Valley Highway, Montville, ME 04941	589-3231
Morrill	Adrienne Simmons 261 Weymouth Road, Morrill, ME 04952	342-2444
Newry	Douglas Webster, Bear River Trading Post 4 Bear River Road, Newry, ME 04261	824-2327

2008-2009 FUR TAGGING STATIONS

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Nobleboro	Kenneth Yereance, Nobleboro Village Inc. 255 Center Street, Nobleboro, ME 04555	563-3639
Oxbow Plt.	Gloria Nelson, The Homestead Lodge 871 Oxbow Road, Oxbow Plt., ME 04764	435-6357
Palmyra	James Spraggins, Moosehead Trail Trading Post 428 Oxbow Road, Palmyra, ME 04965	368-5313
Patten	Kenneth Lau, Patten General Store PO Box 479, Main Street, Patten, ME 04765	528-2549
Phippsburg	Madelyn Freeman Rt. 209, 168 Main Road, Phippsburg, ME 04562	443-5303
Presque Isle	Benjamin LeBlanc, Ben's Trading Post 645 Main Street, Presque Isle, ME 04769	768-3181
Princeton	George Blaney RR1 Box 100-I, Princeton, ME 04668	796-5490
Rumford	Rumford Fire Dept. 151 Congress Street, Rumford, ME 04276	364-2901
St. Francis	Mrs. Claudine Walker Rt 161, 1836 Main Street, St. Francis, ME 04774	398-3144
Sanford	Dennis Theriault Taxidermy 13 Taxidermy Lane (Off Whichers Mill Rd), Sanford, ME 04073	324-8025
Sidney	Andrea Dwelle, Track and Trap Guide Service 76 Drummond Road, Sidney, ME 04330	547-4122
Skowhegan	Skowhegan Fire Dept. 16 Island Avenue, Skowhegan, ME 04976	474-3400
South Berwick	Raymond Sumner, Ray's Auto Repair 16 Junction Road, South Berwick, ME 03908	384-9908
West Minot	Wayne Slattey, Village Trading Post PO Box 103, West Minot, ME 04288	966-2631
Westport Island	Jay Siegers, Loris Island Convenience Store 54 Main Road, Westport Island, ME 04578	882-9300
Woolwich	Mrs. Gloria Kenney Rt. 127, 1505 Middle Road, Woolwich, ME 04579	442-7833

MDIFW's REGIONAL OFFICES

<u>TOWN</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Ashland	P.O. Box 447 (63 Station Hill), Ashland, ME 04732	435-3231
Enfield	73 Cobb Road, Enfield, ME 04493	732-4132
Gray	358 Shaker Road, Gray, ME 04039	657-2345
Greenville	P.O. Box 551 (Village Street), Greenville, ME 04441	695-3756
Jonesboro	P.O. Box 220 (Rt. 1A), Jonesboro, ME 04648	434-5927
Sidney	270 Lyons Road, Sidney, ME 04330	547-5300
Strong	689 Farmington Road, Strong, ME 04983	778-3324



MAINE'S WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS

May 2006